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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/746,735	12/21/2000	G. Gregory Mooty	ASF98065 (021971-0168)	6901

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EXAMINER

LE, HOA VAN

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1752

DATE MAILED: 07/22/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/746,735

Applicant(s)

MOOTY ET AL

Examiner

Hoa V. Le

Art Unit

1752

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

This application is about up for consideration.

A. It is recognized that this application filed back on 21 December 2000. It is helpful to start in an examining process of this application from other Technical Centers. Accordingly, a transferring of this application is accepted for now.

B. This application may have to be transferred again to be examined in other Technical Center by a qualified examiner in the elected art when a proper election is made, resolved and ready for an examination on the merits.

C. In view of the complexity of the claims as set up, elections of species and restrictions of the inventions are made since additional consideration and search for more than one of them is burdensome. Applicants should show or provide a convincing evidence such as a search has been complete and there is no patentably different or distinct of claims 2-30 from that of the broadest independent claim 1. In the absence of convincing evidence, the elections of species and restrictions of the inventions will not be removed.

D.1. Claims 1-30 are generic to a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species comprising many possible light sources in the art. Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for an initiation of search, even though this requirement is traversed.

Art Unit: 1752

2. Claims 1-30 are generic to a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species comprising many possible shapes of a collector in the art. Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for an initiation of search, even though this requirement is traversed.

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

E. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-13, drawn to a scanning station, classified in class 359, subclass 197+.
- II. Claims 14-23, drawn to a digital film processing system, classified in class 345, subclass 418+.
- III. Claims 24-30, drawn to a method for digitizing an image, classified in class 382, subclass 276.

The inventions of Group I and Group II are all related to the materials but have acquired the separate status and searches in the art and can be supported the separate patents as divided by applicants and have no evidence of the record that are not required the separate consideration and search since they are the obvious variants because the prior art being applied to one of them would be sufficient against all inventions, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper. Applicant should show or provide an evidence to the contrary. In the absence of convincing evidence, the restriction would not be removed

Art Unit: 1752

Inventions of Groups (I and II) and Group III are related as process and apparatus for its practice. The inventions are distinct if it can be shown that either: (1) the process as claimed can be practiced by another materially different apparatus or by hand, or (2) the apparatus as claimed can be used to practice another and materially different process. (MPEP § 806.05(e)). In this case, a method of digitally capturing an memorizing image formation as claimed can be practiced, made and obtained without the use of a scanning sep as those in the material claims. Applicants should show or provide an evidence to the contrary. In the absence of convincing evidence, the restriction would not be removed.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired the separate status and searches in the art and can be supported the separate patents as divided by applicants and have no evidence of the record that are not required the separate consideration and search since they are the obvious variants because the prior art being applied to one of them would be sufficient against all inventions, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper. Applicant should show or provide an evidence to the contrary. In the absence of convincing evidence, the restriction would not be removed.

F. An additional consideration or search for more than one invention or subclass in the art is burdensome. Applicant should show or provide an evidence to the contrary. In the absence of convincing evidence, the restriction would not be removed.

G. However any process claim is permitted to be rejoined with a material claim

Art Unit: 1752

provided (a) that the material claim is allowable and (b) the process claim must be contained all of the limitations of the allowable material claim in accordance with the authority stated in *In re Ochiai*, 37 USPQ2d 1127 or *In re Brouwer*, 37 USPQ2d 1663 and MPEP 821.04.

H. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

I. Other issues have not been considered until a proper election is made and resolved.

J. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hoa V. Le whose telephone number is 571-272-1332.

The examiner can normally be reached from 6:30 AM to 4:30 PM on Monday through Thursday and about the same time of most Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cynthia Kelly can be reached on 571-272-1526.

Applicants may file a paper by (1) fax with a central facsimile receiving number 703-872-9306. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

Art Unit: 1752

system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hoa V. Le
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1752

HVL
16 July 2004

HOA VAN LE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Hoa Van Le